

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) of Claims 1-9 as being unpatentable over Rauch in view of Chambers.

In the invention, the first call to the first object causes the first property to change. This first call comprises an identifier and this identifier enables to conditionally invoke the property route that causes the second property to change also. "Conditionally invoking" indicates that the property route may or may not be invoked subject to the identifier. According to Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary, conditionally is defined as "subject to, implying or dependent upon a condition". Thus, the invoking of the property route is "subject to a condition", the identifier. As a consequence, the change of the second property is also "subject to a condition", the identifier.

In Rauch, the signal referred to in col.2, 1.47-50 is sent by the device whose status has changed: "The status of a device also changes when a device sends a signal to the computer indicating that it has become activated or deactivated." In Rauch, the signal is sent when the status of the first device has changed whereas in the invention, the first call causes the first property to change. One indicates the change has occurred (Rauch), the other causes the change (invention). Thus, the signal of Rauch is not equivalent to the identifier or the first call (comprising the identifier) as claimed.

In addition, on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to signals transmitted by a transmitter to activate/inactivate an identified device. The signals correspond to ON/OFF digital waveforms stored in ON/OFF digital waveform fields of the device command table. Applicant respectfully submits that the signals referred to in Col.10, 1.47-64 are different from the signal mentioned in Col.2, 1.47-50. Such signals mentioned in Col.10 are signals transmitted by the computer 100 to activate/inactivate devices 130 whereas the signal of Col.2 is sent by the device 130 when its status has changed. Applicant respectfully submits Rauch neither discloses nor suggests these signals transmitted by transmitter 140 to devices 130 comprising an identifier enabling to conditionally invoke a property route.

In the invention, the first call causes the first property to change and enables to conditionally invoke the property route linking the first property and the second property. Thus, when the first property is changed, the second property is conditionally changed (subject to the identifier). Thus, subject to the identifier, when the first property is changed, either the property route is invoked and the second property is changed, or alternately, the property route is not invoked and the second property is unchanged. In Rauch, when a first device is activated/inactivated, all relationship between the first device and the identified devices are invoked and the status of all identified devices are changed. Thus, Rauch discloses invoking all property routes independently of the call to the first device that caused the status of the first device to change. Thus, Rauch teaches away from the invention since Rauch neither discloses nor suggests applying a condition to the invocation of the relationships between the first device whose status changed and the identified devices (whose status are affected by the changed of the first device) since these relationships are all invoked.

The signals mentioned on Col.10 are therefore not equivalent to the first call enabling to conditionally invoke the property route.

Thus, Rauch clearly neither suggests nor discloses the first call to the first object comprising an identifier enabling to conditionally invoke the route.

Chambers also neither discloses nor suggests the claim limitation of the first call to the first object comprising an identifier enabling to conditionally invoke the route.

Even if both documents were to be combined, the result would still not teach the invention.

The Examiner has thus failed to show a prima facie case of obviousness and the rejection of Claims 1-9 should be withdrawn.

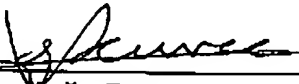
It is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 is patentable over Rauch in view of Chambers. It is also respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-9 are patentable over Rauch in view of Chambers at least based on their dependencies.

Applicant respectfully submits that he has answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 02, 2002

By 
Gwenaelle Le Pennec
Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R 10.9(b)
(408) 617-4837

APPENDIX A

Version with Markings
to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended Claim 1:

- 1.(TWICE AMENDED) An information processing system comprising:
- a first physical component represented by a first software object;
 - a second physical component represented by a second software object;
 - the first object has at least a first property that is changeable through a first call to the first object;
 - the second object has at least a second property that is changeable through a second call to the second object;
 - the system enables registering a property route linking the first property to the second property so that a change in the first property causes the second call to be issued to the second object upon invoking the property route; and
 - the first call to the first object comprises [has associated with it] an identifier enabling to conditionally invoke the route.